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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Joseph H. Sklar
Serial No.: 09/612,055
Filing Date: 07/07/2000
For: LIGAMENT SHIM
Group Art Unit: 3732
Examiner: Melba N. Bumgarner
Attorney's Docket No.: SKLAR-21

RECEIVED

JUL 24 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicant hereby petitions for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding OFFICIAL ACTION mailed January 16, 2003, with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from April 16, 2003 to July 16, 2003.

A check in the amount of \$465.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of a Small Entity status.

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In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

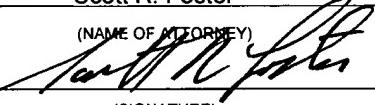
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

July 16, 2003

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Scott R. Foster

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)


(SIGNATURE)

July 16, 2003

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,



Scott R. Foster

Registration No. 20,570

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